kiewicz to endorse the series as its editor. He rejected the offer. "I do not put my name in books I have not written. Moreover, a publisher must not impose his editor upon the author."

I went to see Bortkievicz. He lived in a modest apartment, crowded with books. He was tall and handsome, with penetrating eyes and cropped gray hair—very formal and very cold. His Russian was perfect; he had been born in Russia and was a graduate of St. Petersburg University. When I asked him to take editorial responsibility for my series, he replied with some irritation, "What is the idea? Should I take credit for books I have not written, or give my name to such books?" I replied that, because of the long interruption in my scientific work, I felt insecure in the new literature. I would be grateful if he would check the manuscript for completeness of documentation, methods, and conclusions. He finally agreed, and thus began our joint work.

Bortkiewicz was probably the best statistician in Europe, and I had much to learn from him. We discussed the outline of each chapter. When the chapter was completed, he read the Russian draft and commented on it, usually in writing. Then he read the German text, occasionally correcting the style and watching the terminology. He returned some chapters without comment, but even for these his oral suggestions during the preliminary discussions were most valuable.

Bortkiewicz had a photographic memory and knew the literature on practically any topic of economics and statistics. He had the rare ability to visualize a statistical series as an expression of a continuous economic or historical process. And he had a philosophy of statistics that he had never developed in his writings. For him statistics was not a body of mathematical formulas and techniques but the art of quantitative thinking. An outstanding mathematical statistician, he liked to play with formulas and had published many articles full of algebra, but this was more or less a game; very often the purpose of his mathematical essay was to prove the futility of mathematics. To him the essence was to use measurement to obtain a better understanding of facts of life. Strangely enough, however, he could not express himself simply so that laymen could understand. *The World in Figures* represented the kind of statistics he liked. He did not have the slightest resentment at seeing such statistics produced by a younger man who lacked his erudition and experience. As time went on, our relations became less formal. Emma and I frequently met him and his sister socially, and we became good friends.

Bortkiewicz' outstanding characteristic was his scientific integrity, a high standard for precision in the written word. His reviews of books, even when devastating, were never personal or biased. In Germany he was called the Pope of Statistics and had more admirers